***Press* Release**

The Meteorological Office

PRESS OFFICE

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Cheaper Weather for Aviators.

MetFAX Aviation customers can now obtain their weather information more cheaply. The new rate of 75p per minute delivered at greater speed, gives customers an average saving of 20% to 25%. New numbers for all services take effect immediately. Details of the new numbers plus the full range of services for aviation users from The Met. Office and other sources are in "GET MET Aviation Weather Services 1999"; copies can be obtained free of charge by contacting The Met. Office.

MetFAX Aviation provides specialised services for aviation customers including surface charts, significant weather charts, spot winds, planning forecasts, European charts, AIRMET forecasts, TAFs and METARs. This comprehensive range of information remains unaffected by the number changes.

There are also other new services - internet users will be able to access the F215 from 1st February 1999 on MetWEB, The Met. Office commercial web site - www.met-office.gov.uk. The Met. Office also plans to introduce a Short Message Service (SMS) for aviation during 1999, which will display and store TAFs and METARs as a text message on your digital mobile phone.

Peter Hollingsworth, Account Manager at The Met. Office said,:"Our customers have made it clear that value for money is very important to them. A recent change in premium rate regulations has allowed us to introduce the new rate of 75p per minute. This, combined with the increased speed the faxes are sent, means a saving for our customers."

To obtain your FREE copy of "GET MET Aviation Weather Services 1999"contact our Helpline on Phone: 08700 750 075, Fax: 08700 750 076 or e-mail metfax@meto.gov.uk

Editor's Notes

- The Met. Office is the world's leading provider of weather forecasting and consultancy services, and is one of the UK's leading publishers of fax information.

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